



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
Washington Field Office
P.O. Box 609, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 902-1940 Fax (360) 902-2091

Washington Crop Weather

Released: October 30, 2006
Week Ending: October 29, 2006
CWP WA-CW4406

Frost Sets In Pumpkin Harvest in Full Swing

There were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Temperatures fell below freezing across most of the state. As winter wheat seeding neared completion, winter wheat emerged was mostly in fair to good condition. Field preparations for next spring were underway.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 8% very poor, 14% poor, 37% fair and 41% good. Ranchers continued taking calves to market and supplemental feeding their herds. Oyster harvest continued as the market remained strong.

Fruit and Vegetables

Apple, sweet corn, broccoli, and pumpkin harvest continued and raspberry vines were trained. Cranberry harvest neared completion with both good yields and good color reported. Pumpkin sales were strong in anticipation of Halloween.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

| Week | Days |
|-----------|------|
| This Week | 6.3 |
| Last Week | 5.8 |

Moisture and Supply

| Item | Percent | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|----|----|---|
| | VS | SH | AD | S |
| Topsoil | 11 | 26 | 63 | 0 |
| Topsoil 5 Yr Avg | 10 | 33 | 54 | 4 |
| Subsoil | 8 | 47 | 45 | 0 |
| Subsoil 5 Yr Avg | 12 | 41 | 46 | 1 |
| Irrigation Water | 2 | 11 | 87 | 0 |
| Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg | 2 | 6 | 92 | 0 |
| Hay & Roughage | 2 | 24 | 69 | 5 |

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

Crop Progress

| Crop/Activity | Percent Completed | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|------|------------|
| | This Week | Last Week | 2005 | 5 Yr. Avg. |
| Winter Wheat Planted | 98 | 96 | 97 | 99 |
| Winter Wheat Emerged | 79 | 74 | 71 | 86 |
| Potatoes Harvested | 97 | 92 | 92 | 96 |
| Corn Harvested | 93 | 82 | 84 | 50 |
| Corn Silage Harvested | 99 | 97 | 100 | 100 |

Crop Condition*

| Crop | % Acreage | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| | VP | P | F | G | EX |
| Winter Wheat Dryland | 0 | 14 | 52 | 33 | 1 |
| Winter Wheat Irrigated | 0 | 0 | 17 | 83 | 0 |

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

*Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clallam/Jefferson: The area received rainy weather with cooler temperatures. The following were the year to date precipitation measurements; Port Angeles has received 17.20 inches, Sequim 6.59 inches, and Port Townsend received 12.41 inches of precipitation.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Sweet corn harvest should wrap up this coming week. In most areas, the growing season "officially" ended on October 30th with temperatures falling to the low/mid twenties.

Mason: 0.1" inches of rain fell this past week along with several typical autumn days-- windy, cool and damp. The pastures were beginning to look pretty full with new growth. Area growers were concentrating on prepping fields for next spring by spraying for weeds, fertilizing lightly and planting cover crops on rototilled fields.

Pacific: Good fall weather conditions allowed producers to complete many end of season activities. Cranberry growers completed harvest of bogs, with average yields and good colored berries. Oyster harvest and processing operations continued with good yields and strong market conditions. Christmas tree harvest operations were underway, but growers were complaining about poor market prices this year.

Pierce/South King: Crop conditions remained good for the South Puget Sound area. There were no unusual situations to report. There were no reports of any crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: High temperatures for the past week averaged 52 degrees and there was 0.6 inches of precipitation recorded at the WSU North West Research and Extension Center in

West Mount Vernon. Potato harvest was still underway however with all the rain, many harvesters were parked for parts of the week. Broccoli, corn and pumpkin harvest were finishing up for the year. Raspberry vines were being pruned and "trained".

Skagit/San Juan/Island: Most days during the past week were suitable for field work. Most crops were harvested with the exception of potatoes. Sunday, October 29, 2006 had a variety of weather patterns; sunshine, rain, hail, and even snow in some areas. Many areas experienced freezing temperatures the night of October 29, 2006.

Snohomish/N. King: Weather continued to be rainy. Precipitation received thus far for the month of October in Everett was 2.12 inches and 0.62 inches for Arlington. Temperatures were also cooler.

Snohomish/N. King (2nd Report): A nip of winter was in the air. Heavy rains mid-week slowed field work. Pastures were still growing well until the end of the week when we got our first frost. Fall vegetables were planted and growing. U-Pick pumpkin farms were doing lots of business. Apple and potato harvests continued.

Thurston: There was enough moisture in the mountains to get the chanterelle mushrooms up, but not enough at sea level to get the grass to grow. It was starting to get cold.

Whatcom: Rain showers hampered fieldwork but greened up grass fields and improved pasture conditions. High temperatures ranged in the mid-50's. There were no unusual crop conditions to report.

Central

Chelan: Apple harvest neared completion. All other tree fruits were harvested

Chelan/Douglas: Temperatures cooled off. High winds were experienced. Apple harvest was finishing up for late varieties. Winter wheat was larger in growth than normal for this time of year due to warm temperatures and good moisture. This could become a problem next spring when the plants will need the reserved moisture and fertilizer. Some winter wheat that was replanted late due to rain was looking good, where in a normal year producers would be concerned. The longer than normal warm weather contributed to late plantings. Emergency CRP grazing for livestock producers who suffered range/pasture losses due to area fires has been authorized. Some have signed up to take advantage of the program and can graze for up to 60-days.

Ferry: A light rainfall and low temperatures helped reduce fire danger. Unfortunately, it was not enough rain to replenish the soil profile.

Franklin: Days were definitely shorter with much cooler morning and evening temperatures and only a trace of precipitation during the week. Corn was a little further along in harvest and potato harvest was wrapping up.

Grant: Potato harvest was winding down. Processing carrot harvest continued. Dry corn harvest was also winding down. Apple harvest was finished.

Kittitas: Continuous cold weather had grass pastures and hay fields shut down for the year. Cattlemen were still bringing cows home and working on weaning.

Klickitat: Fall rains had yet to arrive. Cattle were being gathered from mountains and calves were being sold. Weights were a little lower than last year.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 2 degrees below normal to 3 degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. High winds were experienced on October 29th, which may have affected unharvested crops.

Eastern

Asotin: Conditions were dry in most areas during the entire week. Rainfall was needed to ensure good winter wheat germination and growth before winter.

Asotin/Garfield: The weather remained dry for the past week. Planting of winter wheat was nearly complete. The wheat had emerged in some areas and in other areas the wheat was still sitting in dry soil. More rain is needed for proper establishment of the winter wheat. Rangeland was in mostly poor condition due to the lack of rainfall since last June.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: The area experienced a typical fall week. Temperatures were fairly warm during the day but cool during the evenings. Overnight lows for the coming week are expected to be very cold. Most of the fall planting was completed. A number of people were finishing up fall tillage before snowfall. Cattle were being supplemented at this time and additional feeding will start based on the forecast.

Stevens: Temperatures turned colder with a skiff of snow on Sunday night. Calves continued to move to market.

Walla Walla: The area experienced dry conditions with no rain. Temperatures were cooler with frost warnings in evenings. There were high wind warnings for most of the day on Sunday.

Whitman: Conditions improved slightly with some rainfall over the weekend. Additional rains are needed to improve winter wheat conditions. Overall precipitation levels were about 50 percent of normal for the crop year. Some winter wheat seeding was still to be done but for the most part, the 2007 crop was in the ground.

Weekly Weather Statistics

October 30, 2006

| Station | Air Temperature | | | | Growing Degree Days | | | | Last Week Precipitation | | | Season Precipitation | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----|-----|-----|---------------------|-----|----------|-----|-------------------------|-------|------|----------------------|-------|----------|------|
| | LO | HI | AVG | DFN | Base 50F | | Base 60F | | Total | | | Total | | % Normal | Days |
| | | | | | TOT | DFN | TOT | DFN | Inches | DFN | Days | Inches | DFN | | |
| WEST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bellingham | 38 | 57 | 49 | 2 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0.51 | -0.41 | 5 | 3.09 | -1.97 | 61 | 20 |
| Everett | 41 | 59 | 48 | 0 | 6 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0.22 | -0.61 | 3 | 3.57 | -1.40 | 72 | 20 |
| Hoquiam | 42 | 59 | 52 | 1 | 17 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0.23 | -1.50 | 4 | 3.26 | -5.64 | 37 | 17 |
| Kelso | 37 | 66 | 49 | -1 | 7 | -7 | 0 | 0 | 0.24 | -0.82 | 2 | 2.89 | -2.94 | 50 | 15 |
| Olympia | 34 | 64 | 48 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0.14 | -1.12 | 3 | 2.02 | -4.14 | 33 | 16 |
| Sea-Tac | 41 | 62 | 50 | 0 | 11 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 0.58 | -0.34 | 2 | 2.72 | -2.09 | 57 | 15 |
| Shelton | 32 | 60 | 49 | -1 | 9 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0.19 | -1.41 | 4 | 3.01 | -4.62 | 39 | 17 |
| Tacoma | 34 | 64 | 48 | -2 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | -0.92 | 1 | 1.94 | -2.96 | 40 | 11 |
| Vancouver | 36 | 65 | 49 | -2 | 2 | -8 | 0 | 0 | 0.18 | -0.71 | 3 | 1.63 | -3.25 | 33 | 16 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ellensburg | 31 | 67 | 47 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.04 | -0.11 | 1 | 0.39 | -0.60 | 39 | 9 |
| Stampede Pass | 32 | 53 | 40 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3.15 | 1.26 | 5 | 7.41 | -1.90 | 80 | 20 |
| Wenatchee | 34 | 65 | 49 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 0.50 | -0.30 | 63 | 7 |
| Yakima AP | 26 | 65 | 45 | -2 | 0 | -5 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 0.81 | -0.02 | 98 | 7 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Colville | 26 | 56 | 41 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.06 | -0.31 | 1 | 1.48 | -0.78 | 65 | 9 |
| Deer Park | 21 | 58 | 39 | -5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.05 | -0.28 | 2 | 2.33 | 0.47 | 125 | 10 |
| Spokane AP | 29 | 58 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.01 | -0.29 | 1 | 1.27 | -0.35 | 78 | 7 |
| EAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ephrata | 28 | 64 | 46 | -1 | 0 | -7 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 0.74 | -0.02 | 97 | 9 |
| Moses Lake | 27 | 62 | 45 | -1 | 0 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 0.47 | -0.38 | 55 | 8 |
| Quincy | 29 | 62 | 45 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.23 | 0 | 0.65 | -0.63 | 51 | 7 |
| Ritzville | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hanford | 30 | 66 | 49 | -3 | 5 | -14 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 1.05 | 0.34 | 148 | 9 |
| Pasco | 29 | 66 | 49 | -2 | 3 | -11 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.15 | 0 | 0.82 | -0.01 | 99 | 10 |
| Pullman | 30 | 64 | 45 | 0 | 1 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0.14 | -0.26 | 2 | 1.52 | -0.76 | 67 | 11 |
| Whitman Miss. | 25 | 66 | 46 | -3 | 0 | -7 | 0 | 0 | 0.02 | -0.26 | 1 | 1.32 | -0.29 | 82 | 12 |
| ID | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PANHANDLE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coeur D'A' AP | 28 | 59 | 44 | -3 | 0 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.46 | 0 | 0.81 | -1.83 | 31 | 6 |
| Lewiston ID | 33 | 63 | 48 | -1 | 1 | -10 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.21 | 0 | 1.09 | -0.53 | 67 | 10 |

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2006

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation

Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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National weather summary: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/waobr/weather/2006/summary/weth1606.pdf>

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